



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

Seventh District

Date: September 14, 2010

For Immediate Release

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NO TEXT MESSAGE IS WORTH DYING FOR

Councilmember Marti Emerald, Chair of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, is urging every San Diegan to put down their cell phones and give their full attention to the road. "Texting while driving can be riskier than driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs," said Emerald. "When a driver is sending text messages while they're behind the wheel, it's impossible to concentrate on their driving and that puts everyone at risk; drivers, passengers, other motorists and pedestrians."

Today, the San Diego City Council voted with Emerald to adopt a No Texting While Driving Resolution to reinforce how dangerous and even deadly texting can be and encourage you to join in.

For this public awareness campaign to be effective, parents of teenage drivers must set a good example by never texting while driving and remind young drivers that no message is important enough to kill or be killed for. "This is a difficult message for our young drivers to comprehend; they believe they are immortal. But we must make them understand how serious this is. Their life and the lives of their friends are at stake. Just one moment of being distracted can have horrific consequences," added Councilmember Emerald.

It is illegal in the State of California to send text messages or to talk on a cell phone without a hands-free device while driving. And the United States Department of Transportation has banned all commercial truck and bus drivers from sending text messages while they are driving. Please join us in this important safety campaign; lives depend on it.

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